

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 CPR-01

NSC-05 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 INRE-00 EB-07 /060 W  
----- 048068

O 131645Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3530

INFO AMEMBASSY BIRDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2042

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PDIP GY US

SUBJ: GOG DECLARES NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING

SUMMARY: EMOTIONS CONCERNING DEATHS OF GUYANESE IN CUBAN  
AIRLINER CRASH REMAIN HIGH AND GOG HAS DECLARED OCTOBER 14  
TO BE NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING. UNLESS DEPARTMENT  
PERCEIVES OBJECTION, I INTEND TO SEND A MESSAGE OF  
SYMPATHY ON BEHALF OF EMBASSY. SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY ONE  
SO AND THE BRITISH ARE SENDING MESSAGE TODAY. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING CABINET MEETING OCTOBER 12, GOG DECIDED TO  
DECLARE OCTOBER 14 A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING FOR THE  
GUYANESE WHO DIED IN THE RECENT CUBAN AIRLINER CRASH.  
ALL FLAGS ARE TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF AND ALL GUYANESE  
HAVE BEEN ASKED TO WEAR BLACK ARM BANDS OR OTHER SIGNS  
OF MOURNING. FOLLOWING THE CABINET MEETING IT WAS  
ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM WILL  
ADDRESS A MASS RALLY ON OCTOBER 17, "IN  
RECOGNITION OF THE CAUSE FOR WHICH THE 11 GUYANESE,  
ALONG WITH THE OTHERS, DID...."

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2. MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY FROM ABROAD HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR IN THE GOG-OWNED PRESS. THE SOVIET EMBASSY, ON ITS OWN BEHALF, SENT A WRITTEN MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TO FONMIN WILLS ON OCTOBER 8. TO DATE THE SOVIET MESSAGE IS THE ONLY SUCH MESSAGE FROM A RESIDENT DIPLOMATIC MISSION TO BE PUBLISHED; HOWEVER, BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION HAS INFORMED ME THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IS SENDING A MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TODAY.

3. ACTION REQUESTEE: IN VIEW OF THE EXTREME LOCAL SENSITIVITY SURROUNDING THIS MATTER AND THE GOG'S APPARENT NEED FOR TRANQUILIZERS OVER IT, I PROPOSE TO SEND, IF THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT OBJECT, THE FOLLOWING EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO FONMIN WILLS ON THE EMBASSY'S BEHALF IN TIME FOR PUBLICATION OCTOBER 14:

"YOUR EXCELLENCY - ON MY OWN BEHALF AND THAT OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I WOULD LIKE TO CONVEY TO YOU, YOUR GOVERNMENT, AND YOUR PEOPLE OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCES OVER THE TRAGIC LOSS WHICH YOU HAVE SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT AVIATION DISASTER OFF BARBODOS."  
BLACKEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, STATE FUNERALS, DEATHS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** blochd0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**TAGS:** PDIP, PINT, GY, US, CU  
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